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Computer Books: A Spread of Spring Titles
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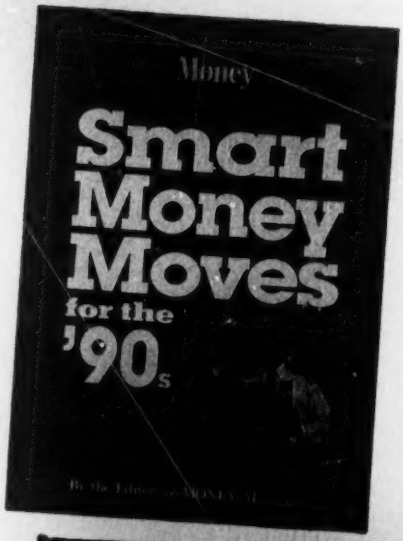

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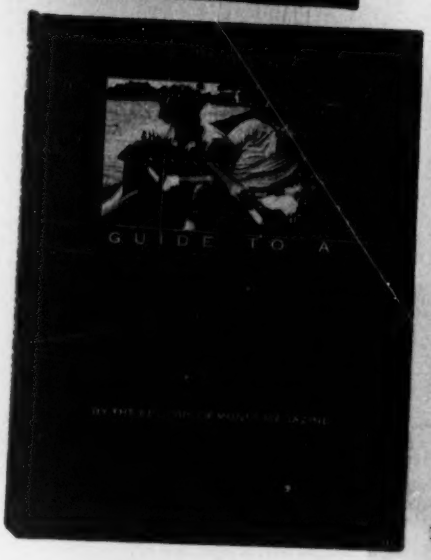

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Publishers Weekly

VOLUME 237 NUMBER 13
ISSN 0000-0019

THE INTERNATIONAL NEWS MAGAZINE OF BOOK PUBLISHING

MARCH 30, 1990

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FEATURES

Spring Computer Books 17

A wealth of new computer titles from a diverse range of publishers proves the field is alive and well.

By Joanne Tangorra

DEPARTMENTS

NEWS OF THE WEEK 10

House Gets Bill on Unpublished Fair Use

Shaffer Succeeds Reilly as President of Macmillan Inc.

Field Narrows in Bidding for Grove Weidenfeld; Rosset Out

NBA Names 1990 Judges

HBJ Reports 1989 Revenues Up but Profits Down For Publishing

Antoine Gallimard Moves to Strengthen Hold on Family Firm

ABA, Michener Join Others In Pantheon Reactions

Bantam Doubleday Dell Sets New Terms of Sale

TRADE NEWS 33

Dispatches from Gossip-land: Michael Herr's Walter Winchell

A Piece of German

History from Outlet

It's 1990 . . . Do You Know Where Your Children Are? New Books on Parenting

Cohen, Random Await Agnelli Bio Go-Ahead

BOOKSELLING 36

A Photographers Place
This New York shop in the "heart of art country" may look shabby on the surface, but it shines with success

PW INTERVIEWS 42

Thea Astley

FORECASTS 44

Nonfiction 44
Fiction 49
Paperbacks 54

Children's Books 60

COLUMNS

Highlights 5
Letters 6
Calendar 7
Media 8
People 14
West Watch 39
Weekly Exchange 66
Paperback Bestsellers 70
Hardcover Bestsellers 72

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HIGHLIGHTS

Congress Gets Fair Use Bill

Rep. Robert Kastenmeier, the Congressional copyright expert, has introduced a bill that would overturn two recent court decisions on use of unpublished materials, which authors and publishers complain would make biographies particularly difficult. In effect, it adds just four vital words to the 1976 Copyright Act. Similar action is expected in the Senate. *Page 10*

Pantheon: The Controversy Continues

Statements by the American Booksellers Association and star Random House author James Michener, and a quantity of newspaper comment skeptical of Pantheon's role and its defenders, were features of the continuing public furor over the departure of André Schiffrin and the top Pantheon editors. *Page 12*

Grove Auction: The Field Narrows

The field of front-running bidders for Grove Weidenfeld, currently on the auction block, appears to have narrowed to 10, including Random House, Harper & Row, S &S and Macmillan. A bid of $11.6 million from a group led by Grove founder Barney Rosset was turned down. The financial group handling the sale said that a deal is expected shortly. *Page 11*

Shaffer Replaces Reilly at Macmillan

William Reilly, president and COO of Macmillan, is resigning to manage K-III Holdings, of which he is also president and CEO. His place will be taken by David Shaffer, former executive v-p of Macmillan Electronic Publishing. *Page 10*

New Terms Offered by BDD

All books from Bantam, Doubleday and Dell-Delacorte are being offered under new terms, beginning May 1. These include discounts ranging from 44%–46% and free freight. *Page 13*

Inside a Sales Conference

Harcourt Brace Jovanovich recently gave *PW* the opportunity to attend a sales conference for a forthcoming children's list, and the results are described in West Watch, on *page 39*.

Computer Books for Spring

It's a market that's changing but still thriving, and computer-related titles from a number of publishers are listed beginning on *page 17*.

Summer Announcements Issue on Sale

Next week's Summer Announcements issue, dated April 6, will be on sale at selected newsstands. For information on locations, call Eastern News Distributors, at (800) 221-3148.

Call for Information: 'Show Daily'

Preparations are under way for another issue of *Show Daily*, our newspaper published during the ABA convention. Publishers with authors at the show for speeches, signings or other activities, or who want to call attention to special projects, displays, or other ABA-related stories, please send material or otherwise communicate with Daisy Maryles at *PW*, 249 West 17th St., New York, N.Y. 10011 ***not later than April 30.***

AAP Sales Report for January

Category	% change, January*	% change, YTD
Adult hardcover	23.0	23.0
Adult paperback	28.6	28.6
Juvenile hardcover	4.7	4.7
Juvenile paperback	9.4	9.4
Univ. pr. hardcover	20.8	20.8
Univ. pr. paperback	12.5	12.5
Bibles, etc.	13.0	13.0
Mass market paperback	25.4	25.4
Book club	3.0	3.0
Mail order	-20.3	-20.3
Sci-tech	10.9	10.9
College texts	13.4	13.4
School texts	-6.6	-6.6

*Percent changes measured against same time periods, 1989.

This was the rosy sales picture *that began 1990, according to the AAP's monthly sales report. As can be seen, adult hardcover and trade paperbacks and mass market paperbacks are all sharply up over the same month in 1989, by unusually large amounts. Children's sales, which generally lead the pack, showed only modest advances.*